



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 21, 2013

TO: Honorable Council President Todd Gloria, Budget Review Committee Chair
and Budget Review Committee Members

FROM: Jeff Sturak, Financial Management Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Review Committee Referral Response

This memorandum is in response to questions asked at the Review Committee Meeting held on May 10, 2013. The responses are listed by department in the order that they were reviewed by the Committee.

TRANSPORTATION & STORM WATER

COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

QUESTION:

Please provide more information on the proposed Traffic Management System including financing and implementation.

RESPONSE:

The Transportation Engineering Operations Division is planning a Traffic Signal Control Study to improve traffic signal timing; allow emergency services to view critical areas of the road network during emergencies; enable implementation of emergency traffic signal timing plans to move traffic out of an area more efficiently; and provide motorist information about road closures, detour routes, and special events via changeable message signs. This Study will identify the needs and a corresponding plan to upgrade the Traffic Signal Control System. The estimated cost for the Study is \$150,000.

The Study is estimated to be completed by November/December of 2013, with the design to be completed by March of 2014, and construction to begin in July of 2014. A total of \$2.0 million of San Diego Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) funds are included in the Fiscal Year 2014 Proposed CIP Budget to implement portions of the Traffic Signal Control System. The Plan listed above will identify a strategy and prioritize the improvements needed to upgrade our

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system. We will design and construct any combination of the following that will best serve the system as Phase 1:

- Expand the interconnection between traffic signals
- Install video systems at signalized intersections
- Install an Adaptive Traffic Control System (enables real-time signal timing changes as traffic patterns change)
- Upgrade traffic signal controllers

A total of \$383,459 of SAFE funds allocated in the Fiscal Year 2014 Proposed CIP Budget are estimated to fund three changeable message signs in the downtown area. Currently, the changeable message signs located in downtown are either not working or only working intermittently.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

QUESTION:

What happened to the \$2.0 million in developer contribution set aside for the bridge to be designed over the San Dieguito River? How much interest did the City receive from the funds and can we re-purpose the funds for a similar/related project?

RESPONSE:

Funds currently exists for project Mission City Parkway/San Diego River/ S00936 and has a balance of \$1.4 million of the Developer Agreement (DA) funds remaining in the project. The total cash available in the DA fund is currently \$2.1 million. The difference is interest that was not appropriated to the project. A Deputy City Attorney opined in 2005 that “absent a change in the description of the Milly Way Bridge in the Mission City Specific Plan or an amendment to the Development Agreement, the money must be used for a vehicular bridge”.

GENERAL SERVICES- FLEET DIVISION

COUNCIL DISTRICT 9

QUESTION:

What is the status on the diesel filters for Fire Apparatus vehicles? Is our service level keeping up with the existing problems?

RESPONSE:

Historically, the Fleet Services Division of the Public Works-General Services Department has encountered significant maintenance and reliability problems with Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) technology required by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency on all Fire Apparatus including City of San Diego fire engines. Council Member Emerald lobbied the Federal Government and was successful in obtaining some exclusions from the DPF technology for fire

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apparatus. However, the actual implementation of this exemption is up to the fire apparatus and engine manufacturers which they have not done at this point in time. Additionally, any exemption would not apply to existing fire apparatus already in service. Therefore, the DPF equipment is still installed on all City fire engines required to be equipped with this equipment.

The positive news for the City is that the Fleet Services Division and the Fire-Rescue Department are not experiencing the failure rate and extensive maintenance requirements at the same level as the last couple of years. There continues to be issues related to the DPF system, but not affecting availability as in past years. Some of the improvement is attributed to a combination of technology changes and improved maintenance practices by the Fleet Services Division and the Fire-Rescue Department.

Jeff Sturak

JS/vm

cc: Honorable Mayor Bob Filner
Honorable Council Members
Vince Hall, Chief of Staff
Scott Chadwick, Interim Chief Operating Officer
Nelson Hernandez, Assistant Chief Operating Officer
Greg Bych, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst
Francisco Estrada, Director of Council Affairs
Tony Heinrichs, Director of Public Works
Kip Sturdevan, Director of Transportation & Storm Water
Financial Management Staff